AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing Of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for producing a conductive coating on an insulating substrate, comprising:

equipping, in selected regions, at least one surface of an electrically insulating substrate with a coating of an electrically highly conductive first metal, the coating being structured as a printed circuit board;

cleaning the at least one coated surface;

seeding the coating with seeds of a second metal;

depositing a layer <u>including an alloy</u> of the second metal onto the coating seeded with the seeds of the second metal; and

firing the substrate deposited with the layer of the second metal.

- 2. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein: the substrate includes one of a ceramic and an LTCC, and the first metal includes silver.
- 3. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein: the second metal includes palladium.
- 4. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in Claim 3, wherein:
 in the depositing of the layer of the second metal, palladium is deposited at a ratio of from 0.1 to 50% percent by weight of the alloy.
- 5. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in Claim 3, wherein:
 in the depositing of palladium, the palladium is deposited in such a way that a
 concentration of greater than 20% percent by weight palladium in the alloy results.

2

- 6. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein:
 the seeding and the depositing are performed according to an electroless procedure.
- 7. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein: the firing is performed at a temperature between 830 and 870°C.

NY01 988931 v1

- 8. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein: the firing is performed at a temperature of 850°C.
- 9.-10. (Canceled)